

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 SCSE-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-03

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CAB - MR. HANCOCK (DRAFT)

EUR/WE - MR. BEIGEL

CAB - MR. DEEGAN (SUB)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM

AMCONSUL ANTWERP

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL ROTTERDAM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, XT

SUBJ: CIVAIR - STRANDEES

REF : HAGUE 3621

1. RE POINTS RAISED PARA 4 (A) REFTEL, FOLLOWING GUIDANCE
PROVIDED:

4 (A) (1): CAB RULES PROVIDE THAT WHERE PRO-RATA
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CHARTERS ORIGINATING IN THE US ARE CONCERNED, CARRIERS

MUST BE PAID BEFORE FLIGHT DEPARTING US IS PERFORMED; WHERE DIFFERENT CARRIERS ARE TO OPERATE OUTBOUND AND RETURN LEGS OF FLIGHT, THE CARRIER PERFORMING THE DEPARTING FLIGHT FROM US MUST ASCERTAIN THAT CARRIER TO PERFORM RETURN TRANSPORTATION HAS BEEN PAID. PREPAYMENT AND CONFIRMATION IS REQUIRED 15 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF PLANE LOAD CHARTER DEPARTING FLIGHT AND 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF SPLIT CHARTER. MOST PRO-RATA CHARTER PASSENGERS LEAVING THE US PLAN A RETURN FLIGHT AT DEFINITE FUTURE DATE. HOWEVER IN THOSE RARE CASES WHERE PARTICIPANTS DO NOT CONTEMPLATE A RETURN FLIGHT ON A DEFINITE DATE, THE CARRIER PERFORMING THE ONE-WAY FLIGHT DEPARTING THE US MUST APPLY FOR A CAB WAIVER OF PAYMENT RULES NOTED ABOVE. (SEE DEPT A-6018 JUNE 15, 1972).

4 (A) (2): THE VALIDITY OF TICKETS AND VOUCHERS AND TIME BEFORE FLIGHT WHEN VOUCHER IS TO BE EXCHANGED FOR TICKET WOULD DEPEND ON CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN CARRIERS, AGENTS AND CHARTERING GROUPS. HOWEVER, CARRIERS ORIGINATING CHARTERS FROM US ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE TICKETS FOR ROUND TRIP TRANSPORTATION TO PASSENGER PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FROM US. A WAIVER OF THIS REQUIREMENT FOR APPROVED ONE-WAY CHARTERS MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD IF ROUND TRIP TICKET IS NOT TO BE GIVEN PASSENGER.

4 (B) (1): DEPARTMENT HAS IN PAST AND WILL CONTINUE TO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO INDUCE CULPABLE TRAVEL AGENCY PROVIDE ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION OR MAKE REFUNDS WHERE PASSENGERS UNABLE USE TICKETS OR VOUCHERS SOLD THEM. HOWEVER, COMPANY MANY TIMES BANKRUPT OR OTHERWISE OUT OF BUSINESS.

4 (B) (2): REDUCED FARE TRANSPORTATION ON SCHEDULED CARRIERS REQUIRES APPROVAL OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED. THERE IS LITTLE USE IN REQUESTING SUCH AUTHORITY, HOWEVER, UNLESS CARRIERS ARE WILLING TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION REQUIRED. WE WOULD DOUBT THAT REGULATORY AGENCIES (US AND FOREIGN) WOULD WISH UNCLASSIFIED

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TO CONSIDER BLANKET AUTHORITY WHICH, IF IT BECAME KNOWN TO PUBLIC, COULD BE SEEN AS COMMITMENT BY GOVERNMENTS TO BAILOUT TRAVELLERS WHO HAD TAKEN A CHANCE ON QUESTIONABLE, CHEAP TRANSPORTATION AND LOST GAMBLE. IN OUR EXPERIENCE, WHERE HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS EXIST REQUIRING RETURN TRANSPORTATION OF BONAFIDE STRANDEES, CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACT QUICKLY ON CARRIER REQUESTS FOR PERMISSION

TO PROVIDE REDUCED FARE PASSAGES. OUR VIEW, WHICH WE UNDERSTAND SHARED BY REGULATORY AGENCIES AND CARRIERS, IS IT NOT IN BEST INTEREST OF US GOVT, TRAVELING PUBLIC OR AIR CARRIERS TO FACILITATE ALTERNATE TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR PERSONS WHO, IN MANY CASES, LIKELY AWARE OF FACT THEY HAVE PURCHASED TICKETS UNDER QUESTIONABLE CIRCUMSTANCES. LIKELIHOOD SUCH PERSONS ARE, IN FACT, AWARE TICKETS OR VOUCHERS THEY HAVE OBTAINED ARE NOT PROPER IS EVIDENCED, WE BELIEVE, BY REACTION OF OSTENDE "STRANDEE" GROUPS IN PAST SEVERAL WEEKS; WHEN THEIR TICKETS QUESTIONED, THEY HAVE FOR MOST PART NOT PRESSED EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE BUT HAVE MADE ALTERNATE ARRANGEMENTS ON THEIR OWN.

4 (B) (3): POSTS ALREADY HAVE AVAILABLE TO THEM EMERGENCY FUNDS AS PROVIDED IN 7 FAM 375.4-2 AND SHOULD UTILIZE TO FULLEST EXTENT THIS DELEGATED AUTHORITY IN SUCH SITUATIONS AS DESTITUTION THROUGH STRANDING. POST

SHOULD NOTIFY DEPARTMENT BY PRIORITY TELEGRAM THAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN, INCLUDING ESTIMATED DOLLAR AMOUNT REQUIRED DAILY.

4 (C): WHERE ALL OTHER POSSIBILITIES OF RESOLVING STRANDEE PROBLEM FAIL REGULAR REPATRIATION PROCEDURES SHOULD BE INSTITUTED. POSTS SHOULD TELEGRAPH PARTICULARS INCLUDING COST OF TICKET, NAMES AND ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF DESTITUTE TRAVELERS. DEPARTMENT WILL EXPEDITE PROCESSING AND WHERE NECESSARY APPROVE REPATRIATION LOANS WHICH SHOULD AVERAGE THREE DAYS FROM TIME OF NOTIFICATION. RUSH

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